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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/410,368 09/30/99 HAVENS

J 244/006

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HM22/1023

EXAMINER

MARSCHER, A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1631

DATE MAILED:

10/23/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/410,368

Applicant(s)
Havens et al.

Examiner
Ardin Marschel

Art Unit
1631



-- **Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondenc address --**

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 26, 2001

2a) ☒ This action is FINAL.

2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19, 21-26, 28-39, and 67-89 is/are pending in the applica

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from considera

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19, 21-26, 28-39, and 67-89 is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirem

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 1-2

20) ☐ Other:

Applicants' arguments, filed 7/26/01, have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive. Rejections and/or objections not reiterated from previous office actions are hereby withdrawn. The following rejections and/or objections are either reiterated or newly applied. They constitute the complete set presently being applied to the instant application.

Applicant is hereby notified that the required timing for the correction of drawings has changed. See the last 6 lines on the sheet which is attached entitled "Attachment for PTO-948 (Rev. 03/01 or earlier)". Due to the above notification Applicant is required to submit drawing corrections within the time period set for responding to this Office action. Failure to respond to this requirement may result in abandonment of the instant application or a notice of a failure to fully respond to this Office action.

Claims 1-19, 21-26, 28-39, and 67-89 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The claims have been amended to include NEW MATTER regarding the phrase "programmable microlocations". The previous claim wording on this issue was "electronically addressable

microlocations". Programmability and addressability are very different limitations. For example, programmability requires the ability to be programmed which includes some type of program memory function whereas addressability may only be that an address is electronically selectable for the microlocation. Applicants have neither pointed to written support for this limitation as filed nor has such support been found. All of the presently pending claims directly or via dependence contain this NEW MATTER. This rejection is necessitated by amendment.

Claims 1-19, 21-26, 28-39, and 67-89 are rejected, as discussed below, under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

It is noted that the first line of claim 1 indicates that the microarray as claimed is "electronically addressable". This causes the metes and bounds of the claim to be vague and indefinite because the remainder of the claim which recites the actual contents of the microarray fails to indicate any addressability. Thus, it is unclear whether a microarray that meets the limitations of lines 2 etc. of claim 1 without any electronic addressability would or would not be an embodiment

within the metes and bounds of claim 1. Additionally, if electronic addressability is present in the microarray of instant claim 1, what is addressed? and by what electronics? Also, what occurs if one wishes to practice electronic addressability for such an array? This same set of unclarities also exists in the remaining pending claims either directly or via dependence from other claim(s). Claims 6, 19, 26, 35, and 39 indicate a type of potential or biasing which is electronically generated but without defining what addressing has occurred and thus are also vague and indefinite. Clarification of the claim metes and bounds is requested via clearer claim wording. This rejection is maintained from the previous office action, mailed 3/26/01, and as necessitated by amendment for newly added claims.

Claims 1 etc. now contain a formula for P - X - R with two bonds to the P entity. This causes the claims to be vague and indefinite because the definition of P in the claims such as in claim 1, lines 8-11, alternatively bond P to a permeation layer "and/or" attached to one or more other P - X - R groups. If the "and" alternative is chosen then P nicely uses the two bonds, one to the permeation layer and the other to the one other P - X - R group optionally. However, if more than one other P - X - R group is attached to the original formula P there are no more bonds left for such attachment. Also, if the "or" alternative is chosen above then P is attached to a permeation layer but the

other bond is then confusingly open and unused. An open bond is not stable generally. What does it bond to? Clarification of the metes and bounds of the P entity bonding is requested. This rejection is necessitated by amendment regarding the new bonding structure for P.

No claim is allowed.

Applicants' amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See M.P.E.P. § 706.07(a). Applicants are reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Technical Center 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Technical Center 1600 via the PTO Fax Center located in Crystal Mall 1. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1988), 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993), and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993) (See 37 CFR § 1.6(d)). The CM1 Fax Center number is either (703)308-4242 or (703)305-3014.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ardin Marschel, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (703)308-3894. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8 A.M.

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to 4 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Woodward, Ph.D., can be reached on (703)308-4028.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to Patent Analyst, Tina Plunkett, whose telephone number is (703)305-3524 or to the Technical Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

October 19, 2001


ARDIN H. MARSCHEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER